



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/735,702	12/16/2003	Yung Yuan Liu	MR3015-58	3447

4586 7590 02/02/2006

ROSENBERG, KLEIN & LEE
3458 ELLICOTT CENTER DRIVE-SUITE 101
ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043

EXAMINER

POLLICOFF, STEVEN B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3728

DATE MAILED: 02/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/735,702

Applicant(s)

LIU, YUNG YUAN

Examiner

Steven B. Pollicoff

Art Unit

3728

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: The element introduced as a "block" has the reference number "25" following it in the Specification page 4, lines 22 and 23 which is inconsistent with the element "driving head" reference number "25" disclosed on page 4, line 5. For examination purposes, examiner will assume Applicant meant reference number "35" when referring to the "block" which is consistent with the remainder of the Specification and the drawings. In claim 1, line 17 it is unclear as to where a "groove" is actually disposed. For examination purposes, examiner will assume Applicant meant that the groove was disposed "within" the inner bottom surface. In claim 2, line 21 the word "diving" appears. Examiner assumes applicant meant to write "driving" which is consistent with the driving head disclosed in claim 1, line 8. Similarly in line 22, Applicant used the word "deposed" and it seems Applicant meant to use the word "disposed" to describe the location of the at least one setting piece.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. It is unclear as to what applicant means by an inclined "conical" portion as disclosed in claim 1, line 10. For examination purposes examiner will interpret the inclined "conical" portion as an inclined "wedge" portion.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tong (U.S. Pat. No. 6,581,894).

As to claim 1, Tong discloses a hanging card mechanism for a socket comprising a card body (Tong Fig. 2, 41) comprising a bottom (47), a driving head (43) and a portion connected to the driving head (44). Tong also discloses a circular and groove-

Art Unit: 3728

shaped base (3) including a bottom (38), two symmetrical snapping pieces (313), an inner bottom surface (Fig. 4, 39) and a groove disposed the inner bottom surface to accommodate the portion connecting the driving head (Fig. 4 generally). In as much as applicant claims that the shape of the inclined portion is conical, Tong also discloses a conical portion as seen in Fig. 2 reference number 44. Tong does not disclose that the conical portion connected to the driving head is inclined. However, official notice is taken that it is old and conventional to provide an inclined wedge surface portion to be snapped together with different elements to facilitate easier engagement between those interconnected elements. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in view of the official notice to modify the wedge portion of Tong connected to the driving head as an inclined wedge portion for a more secure fit between the driving head and base when engaged. Furthermore, such a modification would have involved a mere change in the shape of a component and change in shape is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art. *In re Dailey*, 357 F.2d 669, 149 USPQ 47 (CCPA 1966).

As to claim 3, Tong discloses that the socket includes a groove (Fig. 1, 20) and that the base further includes at least one flange(32) so as to be snapped into and joined with the groove of the socket.

Claims 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tong '894 in view of Vasudeva (U.S. Pub. No. US 2003/0029756 A1).

As to claim 2, Tong discloses that the driving head includes two sides (Fig. 2), but does not disclose that the driving head has at least one setting piece deposited at the

sides or that the base includes at least one hole corresponding to the setting piece such that the setting piece is snapped into and joined with the hole. However, Vasudeva discloses a driving head (Vasudeva Fig. 1, 22) with at least one setting piece (26) and a base (28) including a corresponding hole (30) for the setting piece to snap into and lock the two parts. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the driving head and base of Tong to include at least one setting piece on the driving head and at least one hole in the base for the purpose of locking the two parts together (Vasudeva page 3 paragraph [0081]).

As to claim 4, Tong discloses that the base further includes a block (Tong Fig. 3, 371) disposed beside the groove of the base and that the driving head further includes a bottom (Fig. 7, 46). Tong does not disclose a half arc groove disposed in the bottom of the driving head. However Vasudeva discloses a half arc groove (Vasudeva Fig. 1, 24; see also Fig. 30 generally) disposed in the bottom of the driving head to prevent rotation/twisting of the base when engaged with the driving head (Specification page 4 paragraph [0110]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the driving head and base of Tong to include a half arc groove to the driving head, as taught by Vasudeva, for the purpose of preventing separation of the driving head and base while engaged.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kao (U.S. Pat. No. 6,032,797) discloses a hanging card

Art Unit: 3728

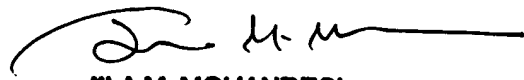
mechanism for a socket. Chou (U.S. Pat. No. 6,032,797) discloses an alternative hanging card mechanism for a socket.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven B. Pollicoff whose telephone number is (571)272-7818. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 7:30A.M.-4:00P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mickey Yu can be reached on (571)272-4562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SBP 1/31/06
SBP


JILA M. MOHANDESI
PRIMARY EXAMINER